This invention relates generally to an accessory for use in connection with men's shaving articles, and in particular the invention is directed to a sharpener for safety razor blades. Safety razor blades, like the so called "straight edge" razor, present a more effective cutting edge when hollow ground. The devices which now are available for use by a person to rehone or sharpen a safety razor blade utilize rotating or oscillating abrasive surfaces to accomplish the hollow grinding of the blade. Such devices are not only quite expensive to purchase but, being mechanical in operation, are subject to wear and the abrasive elements often become improperly aligned with resultant imperfect blade sharpening.

It is therefore my principle object to provide a non-mechanical safety razor blade sharpener which will not only sharpen the actual cutting edges of a blade but will simultaneously effect a hollow grinding of that portion of the blade immediately adjacent the cutting edges, the abrasive of the sharpener elements being arranged in permanent allinement.

A further object of the invention is to produce a simple and inexpensive device and yet one which will be exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects I accomplish by means of such structure and relative arrangement of parts as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claim.

In the drawing similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved safety razor blade sharpener and illustrates a blade in position thereon.

Figure 2 is a cross section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawing, the razor blade sharpener comprises a base 1 of any suitable configuration, the base being rectangular in the present embodiment. A pair of transversely spaced, parallel abrasive elements 2 are fixedly disposed on the base and in upstanding relation thereto. If desired both the base and elements may be made of the same material, such as carbon, and cast or molded to shape and as an integral unit.

The upper and inner quarter of each abrasive element is formed with a curved convex surface and for the full length of the element, as at 3, for the purpose hereinafter described. The elements are spaced apart transversely such a distance that when a safety razor blade is disposed lengthwise on said elements in the manner shown, the edges of the blade will rest upon such curved convex portion of the elements. In other words, the distance from center to center of the curved surfaces is the same as the width of the blades between the cutting edges. An upstanding guide finger 5 is fixed in the base 1 centrally between the elements 2 and at a point centrally between the ends thereof, such guide finger being of sufficient height to extend into the usual blade slot 6 of a blade supported lengthwise on the elements, and of sufficient length to prevent swivel movement of the blade. The elements are of substantially twice the length of a standard safety razor blade.

In use a blade is disposed on the sharpener and in engagement with the abrasive elements 2 in the manner described, the blade edges resting on the convex surfaces 3. With the sharpener held in one hand, a person grasps the blade at its ends and between two fingers and reciprocates the blade back and forth from the position shown in full lines to that shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 of the drawing. As the blade edge reciprocates the abrasive convex surface not only sharpens the actual cutting edge but hollow grinds the blade as well. The sharpening operation is of course repeated for the other side of the blade edges and upon inversion of the blade.

If blade sharpening surfaces of different grades—such as fine and coarse—are desired, the device may be constructed with a plurality of pairs of abrasive elements as is shown for example in my copending application for United States Design Patent, No. 105,712, issued August 17, 1937.

For single edge safety razor blades, the device may be constructed with only one element 2 of abrasive material, the other element being non-abrasive and serving only as a support for the back of the blade.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that I have produced such a device as substantially fulfills the objects of the invention as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the device, still in practice such deviations from such detail may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and useful and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A sharpener for safety razor blades comprising a base, a pair of parallel upstanding abrasive elements mounted on the base in spaced relation, and an upstanding guide finger relatively long and narrow in section fixed on the base centrally between the elements and centrally of the length of said elements, the guide finger being adapted to project into the slot of a blade disposed on the elements, the elements being substantially twice the length of the cutting edges of the blade.

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